Application No.: 10/016,104 Docket No.: SAS-0205

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS, COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A surface treating agent for ligneous floorings comprising 75 to 90 % by weight of a plant drying oil, 10 to 15 % by weight of a Japan wax, 1 to 5 % by weight of a candelilla wax, and 1 to 5 % by weight of a powdery carnauba wax.
- (Currently Amended) The surface treating agent for ligneous floorings according
 to claim 1, wherein the plant drying oil is selected from the group consisting of linseed oil, tung
 oil, sesame oil, sunflower oil, hemp oil, and perilla oil.
 - 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Currently Amended) The surface treating agent for ligneous floorings according to <u>claim 1 or 2-any one of claims 1 to 3</u>, wherein the powdery carnauba wax has an average particle size of about 300 <u>lm-µm</u> or less.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing a surface treating agent for ligneous floorings, comprising the steps of:

melting Japan wax and candelilla wax by heating to allow them to be mixed;

adding slowly a drying oil to said wax mixture which is under stirring, wherein the amount of the drying oil corresponds to about a half amount of a predetermined a total amount of the drying oil to be added;

adding thea remaining amount of the drying oil while continuing stirring, followed by reducing thea product temperature of the product to not more than a temperature of 80 to 86 °C which is the melting point of carnauba wax;

adding slowly powdery carnauba wax to form a uniform dispersion at the time when the product temperature reaches about $60\,^{\circ}\text{C}$ with continuing stirring; and

dispensing the dispersion into packaging containers at the time when the product temperature reaches 55 °C or less with further continuing stirring.